



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

rec'd 1/14/11

JAN 06 2011

Mayor Matthew McHale
Borough of Dumont
50 Washington Avenue
Dumont, New Jersey 07628

Re: Dumont Borough DPW

Dear Mayor McHale:

Your letter to Governor Christie dated October 22, 2010 has been referred to me for response. As you are aware, on September 29, 2010, the Department contacted the Borough regarding a remediation project at Dumont's Department of Public Works Garage, which the Borough has not completed. The Department's letter reinforced Dumont's obligations under the Site Remediation Reform Act. I was glad to see that in your response the Borough of Dumont acknowledges its responsibility to complete the remediation.

I enjoyed speaking with your representatives at the League of Municipalities Conference in Atlantic City. From our database, I see that you have initiated the steps that I recommended, by retaining a Licensed Site Remediation Professional to conduct the necessary remediation at your site. The Borough of Dumont is on its way to resolving the outstanding issues and obtaining environmental compliance at this site.

The Department recognizes that Dumont's inaction was caused in part by a breakdown in communication during the transition of town administration, as you pointed out in your letter. Although we acknowledge that local governments may continue to face such difficulties the Department does not have a role to play; municipalities must keep track of and address their liabilities and responsibilities. Note that the Department does not intend to pursue any penalties at this time for the period of Dumont's non-compliance.

Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

David Sweeney

Assistant Commissioner Site Remediation